

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4657
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2003
MILLION TUBEWELL SCHEME
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Million Tubewell Scheme is being run in Bihar with the Central assistance;
- (b) if so, whether this scheme has been reviewed;
- (c) if so, the number of farmers of Bihar benefited by this scheme so far;
- (d) whether the implementation of this scheme is very slow;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of the steps taken to streamline this scheme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRS. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir.

(c): By the end of 2002-03, the number of farmers benefited by this scheme was 50,966 against the target of 57,111.

(d): No, Sir.

(e): Does not arise.

(f): Some of the steps taken to further streamline and improve the progress of the scheme include:

- Delegation of adequate powers to Branch Managers for sanction and disbursement of loans.
- Reduction in 'Lock-in' period to two years from five years.
- Involvement of the State Government at District/Block levels in the collection and verification of loan applications.
- Formation of a team of officers by RBI Regional Office to visit bank branches to promote lending and also to look into the issues affecting the banks' performance and help the banking system in sorting out the problems.